

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 039651
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:JTHYDEN

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:JTHYDEN

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P 150819Z FEB 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 039651

NODIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM TEHRAN DATED FEBRUARY 14, 1978
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 1608

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV IR US IS SG

SUBJ(BRIEFING ON SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON-SHSH'S MEETING WITH
BEGIN

REF: STATE 35494

1. IN LENGTHY AUDIENCE WITH SHAH MORNING FEB 14, I
BRIEFED HIM ON SADAT'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND DREW UPON REFTTEL
TO PREP HIM FOR HIS MEETING WITH BEGIN. SHAH TOLD ME BEGIN
HAS ASKED TO DELAY HIS VISIT SEVEN DAYS AND WILL THEREFORE NOT
ARRIVE UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

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2. UPON COMPLETION OF MY BRIEFING ON SADAT VISIT, SHAH
EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT US HAD CONVINCED HIM TO PERSEVERE
AND BELIEF THAT SCENARIO WE HAD AGREED FOR DELIBERATE NEGOTIATIONG
PROCESS WAS SOUND.

3. AS FOR BEGIN, SHAH SAID HE HAD INFORMED LOCAL ISRAELI

REP THAT BEGIN WAS JAOPARDIZING PEACE OF ENTIRE
AREA BY HIS INSISTENCE UPON THE ILLEGAL SETTLEMENTS WHICH
HE PERMITTING IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY.

4. IN DISCUSSING BEGIN'S DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS,
SHAH ACKNOWLEDGED THEY WERE REAL, BUT SAID WE COULD, IN
RELATIVE TERMS, CONTEMPLATE THE COLLAPSE OF BEGIN'S
COALITION WITH SOME EQUANIMITY. ON THE OTHER HAND, SADAT
WAS "INDISPENSABLE". IF HE WERE TO COLLAPSE, A NEW
EGYPTIAN GOVT WOULD BRING A TOTALLY DIFFERENT OUTLOOK
TO PEACE IN THE AREA. HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO CONVINCE
BEGIN THAT ISRAEL MUST NOT PERMIT SADAT TO PERISH.

5. THE SHAH NOTED WITH SOME AMUSEMENT THE ASPERITY WHICH
MARKED BEGIN AFD DAYAN'S COMMENTS ABOUT THE VANCE PRESS
CONFERENCE. HE FELT THOSE COMMENTS WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE
IN THE UNITED STATES AFD THAT THE CONGRESS WOULD BACK THE
PRES IN A STIFF CONFRONTATION WITH BEGIN AT THIS STAGE
"PERHAPS FOR THE FIRST TIME".

6. FINALLY, THE SHAH UNDERTOOK TO INFORM US IMMEDIATELY OF
THE RESULTS OF HIS MEETING WITH BEGIN.

7. THE DEPT IS REQUESTED TO PASS THIS MESSAGE TO CAIRO
AND TEL AVIV.
SULLIVAN UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, SHAH, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE039651
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O.JTHYDEN
Enclosure: REPEATING 78 TEHRAN 1608
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N780002-0571
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780252/aaaabrox.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 85ddf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 78 STATE 35494
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3585750
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: (BRIEFING ON SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON-SHSH'S MEETING WITH BEGIN
TAGS: PGOV, OVIP, IR, US, IS, SG, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: CAIRO TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/85ddf2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014